Similarly, in the mines of public sector units engaged in the production of non-ferrous metals, modern equipment and techniques are being introduced, where possible.

Loans to small borrowers

2310. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introudce a new system to disburse loans to small borrowers; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has instructed the publics sector banks that their rural branches should fix two specific days of the month for public disbursement of loans. Reserve Bank of India has also set up a working group under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to examine the existing system of small loans disbursal and to suggest improvements considered necessary.

Export of Marine Products

2311. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any fresh steps to boost the export of marine products during the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Fresh steps taken to boost the export marine products during the Seventh Plan period include (1) promotion Prawn Farming and assistance for setting up prawn hatcheries and prawn seed banks (2) assistance and encouragement for production of value added items and (3) measures for exploitation of deep-sea fishery resources.

Expansion work of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka", Bhubaneswar

2312. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far sanctioned by the Central Government for the expansion work of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka" in Bhubaneswar, Orissa;

(b) the amount borne by the State Government of Orissa; and

(c) the progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) Expansion of "Hotel Kalinga-Ashoka" is ITDC's own project. The estimated cost to be borne on this project is Rs. 170 lakhs. ITDC has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 66.44 lakhs upto 31-3-1985.

The building structure has been completed; furnishing work is nearing completion; work relating to installation of lifts, airconditioning system and other services including interior work is in progress.

Setting up of Jewellery Export Centre at Ahmedabad

2313. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the former Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, made an announcement for the setting up of a Jewellery Export Centre at Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, what is the present position in this regard?